



# SOUTHWICK

## Hampden County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

Southwick has evolved from a rural farming community to a bedroom community over the last twenty years. Its close proximity to the cities of Springfield, Massachusetts and Hartford, Connecticut via routes 10, 202 and 57 has generated significant demand for new housing. Additionally, the town enjoys its status as a major recreational center because of the Congamond Lakes, Moto Cross 338 and large open space areas. Accordingly, municipal services have grown to meet the various demands of the citizenry. The future character of the town will be dependent upon further economic development including commercial and industrial areas as they mix with residential uses. The town is known for its "Jog" because part of its area dips into Connecticut resulting in an uneven line on the map between both states.

(Narrative supplied by community)



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Southwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Granville on the west; Westfield on the north; Agawam on the east; and Granby and Suffield, Connecticut, on the southwest, south, and southeast. Southwick is 12 miles west of Springfield, 101 miles southwest of Boston, and 142 miles from New York City.

**Total Area:** 31.71 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 30.96 sq. miles

**Population:** 7,667

**Density:** 248 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

### (Springfield Station)

Normal temperature in January.....26.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....74.1°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.9"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Southwick, West Springfield

## Regional Planning Agency

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Springfield



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 569-5504

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Cheif Administrative Officer

Open Town Meeting

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1770

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	4,129		
Democrats	1,271	30.8	%
Republicans	803	19.4	%
Other parties	2	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	2,053	49.7	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Southwick town, Hampden County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	8,835	100.0	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>		
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			Total population.....	8,835	100.0
Male.....	4,427	50.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	152	1.7
Female.....	4,408	49.9	Mexican.....	20	0.2
Under 5 years.....	558	6.3	Puerto Rican.....	81	0.9
5 to 9 years.....	654	7.4	Cuban.....	8	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	696	7.9	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	43	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	624	7.1	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	8,683	98.3
20 to 24 years.....	371	4.2	White alone.....	8,502	96.2
25 to 34 years.....	1,011	11.4	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>		
35 to 44 years.....	1,896	20.8	Total population.....	8,835	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,296	14.7	In households.....	8,821	99.8
55 to 59 years.....	447	5.1	Householder.....	3,318	37.6
60 to 64 years.....	311	3.5	Spouse.....	1,991	22.5
65 to 74 years.....	535	6.1	Child.....	2,847	32.2
75 to 84 years.....	384	4.3	Own child under 18 years.....	2,202	24.9
85 years and over.....	112	1.3	Other relatives.....	304	3.4
Median age (years).....	37.9	(X)	Under 18 years.....	104	1.2
18 years and over.....	6,490	73.5	Nonrelatives.....	361	4.1
Male.....	3,215	36.4	Unmarried partner.....	187	2.1
Female.....	3,275	37.1	In group quarters.....	14	0.2
21 years and over.....	6,223	70.4	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	1,207	13.7	Noninstitutionalized population.....	14	0.2
65 years and over.....	1,031	11.7	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>		
Male.....	433	4.9	Total households.....	3,318	100.0
Female.....	598	6.8	Family households (families).....	2,419	72.9
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	1,214	36.6
One race.....	8,733	98.8	Married-couple family.....	1,991	60.0
White.....	8,606	97.4	With own children under 18 years.....	967	29.1
Black or African American.....	45	0.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	274	8.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	18	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	158	4.8
Asian.....	33	0.4	Nonfamily households.....	899	27.1
Asian Indian.....	5	0.1	Householder living alone.....	726	21.9
Chinese.....	10	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	328	9.9
Filipino.....	4	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,300	39.2
Japanese.....	3	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	764	23.0
Korean.....	4	-	Average household size.....	2.66	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	3.13	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	7	0.1	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	3,533	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	3,318	93.9
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	1	-	Vacant housing units.....	215	6.1
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	-	-	occasional use.....	45	1.3
Some other race.....	30	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	2.0	(X)
Two or more races.....	102	1.2	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	9.6	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>		
<i>or more other races: <sup>3</sup></i>			Occupied housing units.....	3,318	100.0
White.....	8,704	98.5	Owner-occupied housing units.....	2,699	81.3
Black or African American.....	69	0.8	Renter-occupied housing units.....	619	18.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	76	0.9	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.80	(X)
Asian.....	47	0.5	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.04	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	6	0.1			
Some other race.....	44	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 68

Conventional Federal: 0

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



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# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Southwick is located in the Pioneer Valley Region, known as the crossroads of New England because of its strategic position along the Connecticut River and its excellent transportation facilities. The Massachusetts Turnpike connects the region to Boston and to Albany, New York. Interstate 91 provides direct access to Hartford, Connecticut, and to Brattleboro and points north in Vermont.

### Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 57 and U.S. Route 202, which connects up with the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate Route 90) and U.S. Route 20 in the neighboring town of Westfield.

### Rail

Conrail provides freight rail service to Southwick. Contact number: (617) 783-6222

### Bus

Southwick is a member of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA). There is no fixed route service, but FRTA provides paratransit services for the elderly and disabled through Hulme's Transportation Company. The Town also has its own bus for elderly transport.

### Other

Barnes Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 5,000' x 100' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

None

### Long Term Care

None

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

None

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.